

Chesterfield County - Department of Utilities

Best Management Practices for Dental Office

(For recycling of amalgam, lead foil, and x-ray fixer)

- •Do not use bulk mercury for amalgam;
- •Do not put bulk elemental mercury waste in the biohazard (red) bag, garbage or down the drain;
- •Do not put used disposable amalgam capsules in biohazard bags, or regular garbage;
- •Do not put any contact or non-contact amalgam waste including extracted teeth with amalgams in biohazard bags, or regular garbage;
- •Do not rinse chair-side traps or vacuum pump filters containing amalgam, or other amalgam collection devices over drains or sinks;
- •Do not disinfect teeth or any item containing amalgam with any method that uses heat;
- •Do not discharge the spent fixer solution to the sanitary sewer;
- •Do not put lead foil from x-rays in the trash;



- ✓ Do use precapsulated alloys and stock a variety of capsule sizes;
- ✓ Do contact a amalgam recycler/disposal service to recycle amalgam waste as much as possible;
- ✓ Do recycle used disposable amalgam capsules;
- ✓ Do recycle contact or non-contact amalgam;
- ✓ Do recycle contents retained by chair-side traps, vacuum pump filter or other amalgam collection device;
- ✓ Do post "NO AMALGAM" signs above sinks and on drains;
- ✓ Do install a fixer Treatment Unit to treat spent fixer solution or contact a licensed hauler to dispose of spent fixer waste solution;
- ✓ Do recycle used lead foil;